

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended)      A shock absorbing material for packaging, said material comprising:  
  
    a single pad; and  
  
    a hole for deaeration which is formed so as to penetrate between a first surface thereof of the single pad, which is brought into contact with an inner surface of a packaging carton when said shock absorbing material is placed in said packaging carton, and a second surface thereof of the single pad on which a product to be packed is placed via a thin film member.
  
2. (previously presented)      The shock absorbing material for packaging according to Claim 1, further comprising a deaerating-duct insertion opening which is formed so as to penetrate between the first and second surfaces, and into which a deaerating duct can be inserted.
  
3. (previously presented)      The shock absorbing material for packaging according to Claim 2, further comprising grooves for deaeration which are formed in at least one of the first and second surfaces, and which provide communication between the deaerating-duct insertion opening and the hole for deaeration.

4. (previously presented)      The shock absorbing material for packaging according to Claim 2, wherein the hole for deaeration is formed on a side of a dented portion provided in the second surface, the dented portion for placement of the product.

5. (withdrawn)      A deaeration packaging method comprising:  
a shock absorbing material placing step of placing a shock absorbing material for packaging according to Claim 1 in a packaging carton;  
a thin film member loading step of loading a thin film member for packaging which is thinly formed onto said absorbing material for packaging and into said packing carton;  
an evacuating step of evacuating air between the thin film member for packaging which is thinly formed and the shock absorbing material for packaging via a hole for deaeration, and adhering the thin film member for packaging which is thinly formed to both the shock absorbing material for packaging and the packing carton by inserting a deaerating duct into a deaerating-duct insertion opening of said shock absorbing material for packaging, and sucking out the air;  
and  
a target-to-be-packaged placing step of placing a target to be packaged on said shock absorbing material for packaging to which the thin film member for packaging which is thinly formed is adhered and loaded.

6. (withdrawn)        A deaeration packaging method comprising:

a shock absorbing material placing step of placing a shock absorbing material for packaging according to Claim 1 in a packaging carton;

a thin film member loading step of loading a thin film member for packaging which is thinly formed onto said absorbing material for packaging and into said packaging carton;

an evacuating step of evacuating air between the thin film member for packaging which is thinly formed and the shock absorbing material for packaging via a hole for deaeration of said shock absorbing material for packaging, and adhering the thin film member for packaging which is thinly formed to both the shock absorbing material for packaging and the packaging carton by inserting a deaerating nozzle from a back surface of said packing carton into the hole for deaeration, and sucking out the air; and

a target-to-be-packaged placing step of placing a target to be packaged on said shock absorbing material for packaging to which the thin film member for packaging which is thinly formed is adhered and loaded.

7. (previously presented): The shock absorbing material for packaging according to claim 1, further comprising at least one dented portion in the second surface, the dented portion for placement of the product therein,

wherein at least two holes for deaeration are formed in the dented portion.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(e)  
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8. (new): The shock absorbing material for packaging according to claim 1, wherein the hole is enclosed within the shock absorbing material.

9. (new): The shock absorbing material for packaging according to claim 1, wherein the hole is fully enclosed by the shock absorbing material around the perimeter of the hole.